

4-11-2014

Montana Kaimin, April 11, 2014

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LOCKED UP

MISSOULA'S STORAGE UNIT THEFT RATE IS SKYROCKETING.

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE VICTIMS?

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE THIEVES?





KUR MUDGEN COLUMN

THE MISSOULANTHROPE

Yes, this is 500 words about sandals

By Conrad Scheid

I was not, until recently, a sandals kind of person. Exposing my pale, nearly necrotic skin to that blinding yellow orb has always been a dicey proposition. But the pair of worn yet sturdy sandals I found in a bin at the zenith of the year's heat quickly became a mainstay of my Missoula summer dress code.

And here's the thing: they were Tevas, not Chacos (if neither of those words mean anything to you, stop reading. Seriously, this won't mean anything to you and will probably lower your opinion of me as a person).

In my native land of Oregon, the sandal of choice is your common Birkenstock. But here in Missoula, the unwashed masses worship Chacos as the sockless (and occasionally socked, depending on how interested you are in observing social norms) footwear of choice for lazy days spent along the banks of the Bitterroot or huck hunting on the slopes of Blue Mountain.

The University of Montana Wilderness Association, a UM student group, even hosts a Chaco tan competition. This monument to showing how much more time you spend outdoors than your peers selects winners by the severity of the z-shaped tan lines on their feet.

For some reason, Chacos have become the de facto summer sandal of Missoula's feet elite. But their decision-making can't have been practical.

When I asked Glenn, an employee at a local shoe store, to illustrate the differences between Chacos and Tevas, she was quick to point out several advantages of the less popular brand of footwear. Besides the lighter (though admittedly still outrageous) price tag, Tevas themselves are less heavy. That's because of the two-part sole that has rubber on the bottom — better than the competition for handling wet surfaces, says Glenn — and airy foam on top, which means it's easier on the feet.

The unibody construction of Chacos mean they'll last a little bit longer, but if the evidence of my secondhand bin-found Tevas are any indication, it'll still be years before they start falling apart.

And the imbalances don't stop there. Over spring break, my boundless appetite for schadenfreude was satisfied by my travel companion's struggle with her Chaco's single strap. Her attempt to find the goldilocks spot between too tight and falling off could last minutes, and was repeated every time a rock found its way between foot and sole. Apparently it takes a mariner's knowledge of the properties of fabric to adjust your Chacos.

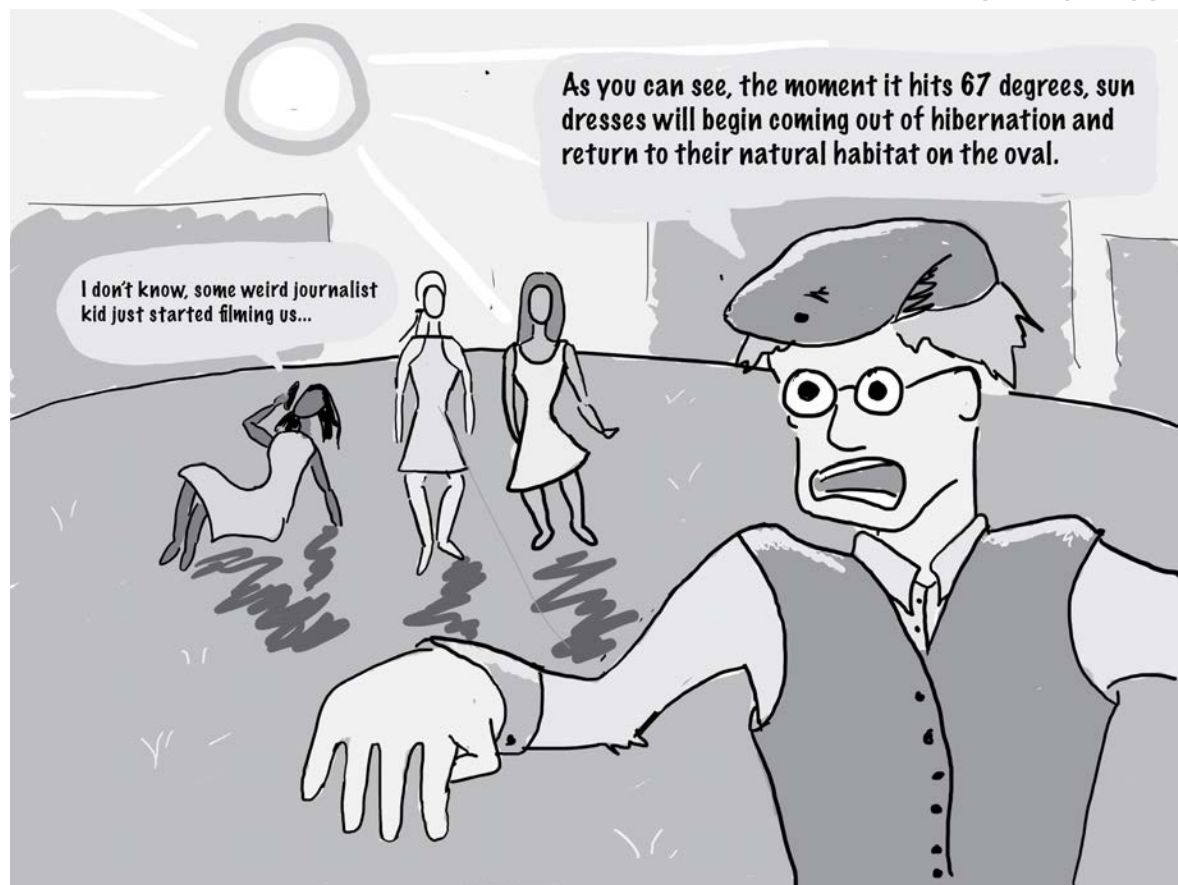
During those moments I was only too happy to smugly demonstrate the space-age marvel known as velcro, which allowed me to tighten or loosen my Tevas in a manner of seconds.

I'm not saying you should be forced into using one kind of sandal, even if it's clearly the better option. It's just curious that a demographic usually obsessed with individuality and the utility of their gear have sworn brand allegiance to what seems like a less capable product. Maybe it's the fancy colors of the straps.

Or possibly it's the toe-loop offered by Chacos. You know, the annoying bit of fabric that keeps your big toe isolated from the rest of the gang. I've always hated those. Nothing belongs in that area except sand and toe lint.

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EDITORIAL CARTOON



James Alan Rolph/Montana Kaimin

BIG UPS | BACKHANDS

Big ups to the Florence doctor who got busted writing prescriptions for 9,000 methadone tablets over a 133-day period to the same patient. This was a fantastic reminder that you're not a drug-dealer as long as you're wearing a white coat.

Backhands to the Russian government for withholding information about one of the Boston Marathon bombing suspects. Oh no, please, give us more reason to dislike your country.

Big ups to the Fox and Friends host that mistakenly referred to the NCAA as the NAACP. Generic blonde woman No. 1 really showed her true color there.

Backhands to professors who won't let their classes sit outside during group discussion. You say it's because outside is too distracting, but we all know it's because you're still hungover from last night.

Big ups to walls for breaking our hands when we're drunk and mad. If it weren't for walls, we would never get underpaid copy editors to write the majority of our columns for us.

Backhands to the former Griz basketball player caught selling drugs. It's not like we needed any help in the PR department or anything.

Cover photo by Kelsey Wardwell/Montana Kaimin

GOT NEWS? We've got news for you. Please send any news tips, ideas and press releases to EDITOR@MONTANAKAIMIN.COM.

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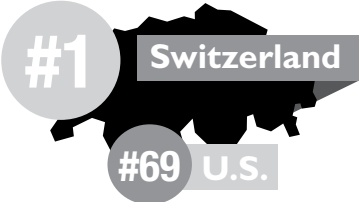
AMERICAN 'EHH'XCEPTIONALISM

How our country ranks with the rest of the world

Information compiled by Brea Gaudioso

ECOSYSTEM SUSTAINABILITY

Measured by air, water and land use, as well as biodiversity and greenhouse gas emissions per \$1,000 of GDP



WATER AND SANITATION

Access to piped water, rural vs. urban access to improved water sources, access to improved sanitation facilities



ACCESS TO BASIC KNOWLEDGE

Adult literacy rate, primary school enrollment, lower secondary school enrollment and gender parity in secondary enrollment



PERSONAL SAFETY

Homicide rate, level of violent crime, perceived criminality, political terror and traffic deaths



ACCESS TO ADVANCED EDUCATION

Women's average years in school, years of tertiary schooling, inequality in education attainment and number of globally ranked universities



Note: 132 countries included in the study; Source: 2014 Social Progress Index by The Social Progress Imperative

1

Across

1. Car manufacturer offering \$1000 fuel rewards card with all 2013 and 2014 TDI Models*

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FOR RELEASE APRIL 11, 2014

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

1 Hitching aid
6 Journalist Paula
10 Silo occupant, briefly
14 Place to practice plies
15 Arab League member
16 Tea Latte: Starbucks offering
17 Cost to join the elite?
19 "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes" composer
20 Pay for, in a way
21 Wonder Woman accessory
22 Stroke gently
25 Kindle download that's too good to delete?
27 Like some felonies
29 Seuss pond-ruling reptile
30 Ready for FedEx, perhaps
31 Yahoo
34 Only 20th-century president whose three distinct initials are in alphabetical order
35 Origami tablet?
39 Common HDTV feature
41 Basic water transport
42 French royal
45 California city on Humboldt Bay
48 Certain allergy sufferer's bane
49 Expert on circular gaskets?
53 Induced
54 Places for pews
55 Places for sweaters?
57 Makes certain of
58 List of reversals?
62 Jeanne
63 Feigned
64 Inventor Howe
65 Fair
66 Bellicose god
67 They may be hammered out

DOWN

1 TV Guide abbr.
2 McRae of the '70s-'80s Royals
3 Ocean State sch.
4 Richie's mom, to Fonzie
5 National Institutes of Health home
6 Don Diego de la Vega's alter ego
7 Pal of 6-Down
8 Czech diacritical
9 Terre Haute-to-South Bend dir.
10 More repulsive
11 Event offering superficial pleasure
12 Crude containers
13 Muezzin's tower
18 Early sunscreen ingredient
21 Tapered support item
22 Chem. pollutant
23 "Evil Woman" rock gp.
24 Hacks
26 "The Closer" star Sedgwick
28 Libra's mo., perhaps
31 Glitzy wrap
32 On vacation
33 Stop wavering
36 Wee bit o' Glenlivet, say
37 Apportioned
38 Unagi, at a sushi bar
39 November meteor shower, with "the"
40 Liqueur named for an island
43 Once known as
44 "The World's ___": 2013 sci-fi comedy
46 "Romanian Rhapsodies" composer
47 Metric wts.
48 One of the Ives
50 Fur tycoon
51 Ristorante potful
52 Iraqis' neighbors
56 Word with white or fire
58 Thurman of film
59 Recycling vessel
60 Delt neighbor
61 Superhero symbol

Baucus donates Senate papers to University

Katheryn Houghton
Montana Kaimin

Former Montana Sen. Max Baucus is donating his Senate papers to the Mansfield Library, said President Royce Engstrom at the Faculty Senate meeting Thursday afternoon.

Baucus is also donating \$850,000 in leftover campaign money to archive the papers in the library, Engstrom said.

"This is something we have

been working on for quite sometime," Engstrom said.

The University of Montana administration wrote to Baucus last year about the future of the papers, just three weeks before the senator announced his retirement plans.

Engstrom said there may be some limitations on how many papers can be used at once, but that will be managed by the Mansfield librarians.

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ZOO Keeping: Keepin' it green in the UC



Rachel Leathe/Montana Kaimin

Kelly Chadwick is the UC Gardens supervisor and has maintained the extensive horticulture on campus for over 30 years.

Megan Marolf Montana Kaimin

With three watering pots in one hand, Kelly Chadwick points out the tiny shrubs outside the University Center. A pair of scissors rests in the back pocket of her jeans.

The trio of planters contains the same native plants on Waterworks Hill, flat plants that will bloom pastel-tinted flowers, like *Douglasia montana* and *Phlox missoulensis*. Chadwick is the UC Gardens supervisor at the University of Montana, and has worked at the University gardens for over 30 years.

As a woman passes Chadwick outside the UC on the Wednesday afternoon, she hands her a pair of clippers with red rubber handles.

"Can I give you these?"

"I'll drop them off, thank you. They look nice," Chadwick said, grabbing the freshly sharpened and cleaned tool. They volunteer together, maintaining the native plant garden just around the corner.

Chadwick said since UM's main campus is the site of the Montana State Arboretum, the flora is supposed to reflect native species.

"I'm going to try and create different habitats of plants that reflect different areas around North America," she said.

So far, it seems she's done her job. The raised garden bed lining the southwest wall of the UC is home to a range of native south-

western plants, and species native to Midwestern prairies inhabit the west side.

Countless rectangular labels poke out of the ground next to each plant, most of which barely rise from the soil. Chadwick said this is to keep the less experienced gardeners from mistaking them for weeds.

Chadwick supervises four student employees who work a total of 25 hours a week, while she works full-time tending the UC Gardens, and plants inside the School of Law and Lommasson Center.

"We're busy. I mean, we don't have enough time to do what we need to do in the winter time," she said.

Yet a bigger budget in the summertime allows the crew to do more, Chadwick said. Student hours increase to 45 hours a week once school ends.

Across the street from the base of the M, Colin Fero spreads compost across the tiered garden beds, which butt up against the parking lot. Fero works 10 hours a week helping Chadwick tend the indoor and outdoor gardens.

"It's really fun to be involved in growing your food. It's good for the University, too," he said.

Herbs grown in the UC Gardens are used by UM Dining and UM Catering, and some of the fruit and vegetables go to the Poverello Center. Fero said he thinks it's a "pretty sustainable system."

"And I'm really into sustainable agriculture, so it really gets me going," he said.

Coffee grounds from cafes around campus provide nitrogen for compost. The rest of the ratio comes from leaves, which make up the carbon component.

Sometimes they add shredded paper to mix, but never food scraps, Chadwick said.

"For really good compost you want diversity, but we don't use food because that would attract bears," she said.

Chadwick said safety is a priority in taking care of the UC Gardens. While people may complain when the staff sprays plants in the atrium — thinking the spray contains chemicals — the mixture is actually made of ivory soap and rubbing alcohol, she said.

"Everything we do is safe, and almost everything's organic," Chadwick said.

On Wednesdays, Chadwick waters the potted plants in the law school, which have been there for decades, she said.

She knows the plants well, after all the years spent watering, weeding and lugging compost. Chadwick said she likes the flexibility and stimulating environment of her job, and meeting people with the same interests.

"Everyone usually knows me, but anyone who doesn't calls me the plant lady."

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CAMPUS

Faculty Senate discusses more spending

Katheryn Houghton Montana Kaimin

The University of Montana expects to spend nearly \$2 million more in fiscal year 2015 than 2014, President Royce Engstrom said at Thursday's Faculty Senate meeting.

For fiscal year 2014, which ends July 1, the University had expenditures of roughly \$155 million. Looking into fiscal year 2015, Engstrom said he expects the school's spending to be roughly \$157 million.

While the budget is expanding, there are added expenses for next year like a new faculty salary packet, he said. As a result, the University needs to cut roughly \$9 million from base activities. Out of that amount, classroom instruction, which includes faculty and staff salaries, will see a hit of roughly \$60,000, he said.

"Part of the reason we are in this situation is because we didn't get the money we wanted in our tuition revenue from enrollment," he said.

Along with an increase in prospective student outreach, Engstrom delegated the Senate with evaluating UM's academic programs, as an effort to increase enrollment for the long run. The Senate would work with the Provost's Office and deans across campus to evaluate academic standards at UM.

Engstrom asked the Senate, deans and Provost's Office to design a process to identify programs across campus that suffer low enrollment. The goal is to find a way to strengthen struggling programs and make them more attractive to prospective students.

"It's possible that you will identify programs that are no longer viable but that is not the primary purpose of the process," he said.

Engstrom also asked the Senate to examine UM's liberal arts programs to ensure they match today's higher education standards, identify the best way to communicate to prospective students the importance

of liberal arts and suggest new programs.

Faculty Senate Chair Liz Putnam said some of this process will be very quantitative but will also look at the quality and differences of each program.

To make sure the University makes decisions that respect the individuality of each program, Putnam said faculty needs to take action.

"The last thing we want is a top-down process," Putnam said. "We need faculty to say, 'This is my program compared to the national norms and this is what we need from the University to bring it up.'"

She said the process is in the data collection stage and the coming year will focus on a broad look at programs across campus through self-assessments, program reviews and new models the administration hopes faculty will help form.

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STORAGE SAFETY: *The Consequences of Cutting Cocks*

STORY BY
MEGAN PETERSEN
PHOTOS BY
KELSEY WARDWELL



It was one of the first skiffs of snow for the winter of 2013. A couple of inches fell overnight, and Brad Daniel thought of his new pair of Volkl skis tucked away behind the orange padlocked door at Murphy Street MiniStorage. He'd only skied with them twice.

Daniel got off work at Biga Pizza and drove out to his storage unit. Maybe he could squeeze in a day at Snowbowl between working as a pizza chef and starting a food cart business, Bao Buns, with his girlfriend Nicole Taranto.

He needed to start moving his stuff — hunting and camping gear, winter clothes, old books and school work, his skis — out of the unit and into the house he and Taranto moved into over the summer. Between the food cart and batches of homebrew, there was plenty of room in the garage and the basement for the stuff he kept in storage.

Daniel pulled up to the gate behind Energy Partners Propane on Broadway Street and got out to punch in the security key code. The wind whipped snow over his windshield in dusty clouds and left crusty drifts in the corners of the unit lots. He got back into his car as the gate slowly wheeled open.

He drove around the first row of orange-doored units and took a right, following tire tracks through the snow. The tracks stopped at his unit, No. 53, Block C. He got out of his truck. There were footprints in the snow leading from the orange door. The lock was gone.

Daniel rolled up the door and took a quick inventory. Three-quarters of his stuff was

missing or out of place. His new Volkls and Ride snowboard were gone, along with the Tecnica and Burton boots to fit their bindings. Also missing were a red 1,600-cubic inch backpacking pack, a box of tools, a pair of black snowshoes and another backpack full of hunting and camping equipment — including the wood-handled knife his grandfather hand crafted using a borrowed piece from an old Missoula lumber mill.

"It wasn't super fancy, but it was special in its own way," Daniel said. "I'm not really sentimental about these things, but everything you lose is disappointing to lose."

In all, more than \$2,000 dollars worth of items were stolen. Anything worth less than \$50 was left untouched. Nothing was damaged; some of the boxes still had the tape on them. His old school binders, long johns and wool socks were still in their boxes.

"He just had no interest in them," Daniel said. "At least he was respectful when he was rummaging through my stuff."

Daniel called the police to report the theft. Taranto met him at the facility while he waited for police to show up.

"Brad did all the CSI and detective work before the cops got there," Taranto said.

Daniel studied the footprints in the snow. It looked like two sets of shoes, and they made multiple trips into his unit. He followed the boot tracks in the snow down another row of orange garage doors to a chain link fence lined along the top with barbed wire. The fence was clipped tall enough for a

man to duck through. A pair of cut locks sat rusting in the snow.

This has happened before, Daniel thought. The locks wouldn't have rusted that much overnight. They figure a group of people entered through the code-locked gate with a vehicle, cut the lock to his unit with a bolt cutter or grinder, loaded the car, cut the fence as a disguise and left through the gate.

"It would have been a pain in the ass to get through the fence," Daniel said, looking at his ski equipment more than four months later. "I think they did it with a car right there, but it's all speculation."

Daniel's unit is just one of many storage units that have been plundered in a growing trend of storage unit burglaries in Missoula. According to the Montana Board of Crime Control, the number of storage unit break-ins and burglaries has more than quadrupled in the last four years, increasing from seven reports in 2010 to 39 in 2014. It's something victims rarely get any closure on.

"Unless the place has cameras, it's pretty much impossible to track down whoever did it," Daniel said.

When the police arrived at the scene, Taranto stayed in her truck to avoid the wind while Daniel reported the theft. According to Daniel, the responding officer said she was familiar with the facility.

"She said, 'This place gets hit all the time. We come out here a lot,'" he said.

But Daniel was relatively lucky. Months later, he got some of what was stolen from him back. Police were able to

track some of his ski and snowboard gear to First Interstate Pawn shop. It was sold to the shop Dec. 20, 2013, by Stephen Michael-Allen Hurd, who was arrested three days later after police connected him to a string of storage unit break-ins in the days before Christmas.

In March, police called Daniel to the evidence locker in the

basement of City Hall to identify and recover some of his stolen items. His skis, board, both pairs of boots and bindings were returned to him. But Daniel said the evidence locker with Hurd's name on it was far from empty.

"It was to the point that it was daunting to see all the stuff that was there," Daniel said.



Top Brad Daniel's belongings were stolen from storage unit 53 in November 2013. Daniel said when he pulled up to the unit he noticed footprints in the snow leading up to his unit.

Bottom Daniel's snowboard, brand new skis, boots and bindings were among the few items that were recovered from the storage unit robbery.

At 30 years old, combat veteran Stephen Hurd's dark receding hairline is apparent through his close-shaved mohawk. His left front tooth is lined around the gums with black rot, the same color as the tattoos on his arms and collar bone. Loopy letters line his left ring finger — they're his and his wife's, Sheena Flankey's, initials. On his ring finger used to be a wedding band, but he pawned it. Few people come to see him behind the visiting windows of Missoula County Jail.

"The papers made me out to be the fucking Grinch, saying I stole wrapped Christmas presents," Hurd said. "Life put me in a corner. If the Army taught me anything, it's to fight my way out."

Hurd grew up a military man. He was raised on Malmstrom Air Force Base in Great Falls, and served as an Army combat veteran in Iraq and Korea between 2003 and 2009. He said he left the Army with a less than honorable discharge — the gray area between general and dishonorable — which means he has limited access to the benefits and services offered by the Office of Veterans' Affairs. Hurd said he suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder.

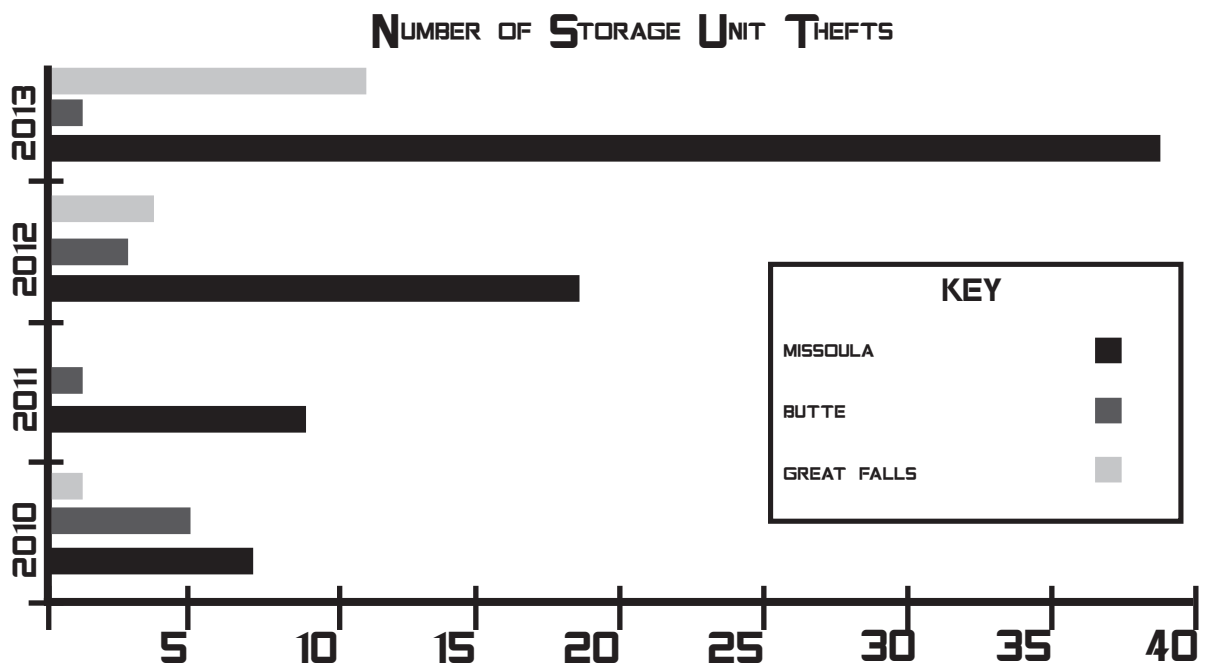
"I'm a little messed up in the ears," he said.

Shortly after the Army discharged him, Hurd met Flankey, and they soon had three kids. He named his daughter after his sister who died as a child, and one of his sons after his brother-in-arms, whose dead body Hurd dragged through the streets of Iraq after he was shot in the face by a sniper. He calls his kids, all under the age of 6, his "lucky charms," his "true north." He's missed two of their birthdays while in jail.

After the Army, Hurd said he held a steady job at a health clinic in Great Falls where he climbed the ranks from janitor to certified nursing assistant. He coped with his PTSD through "self-medication," or alcohol abuse. He said he would have gone on to be a heart surgeon if he had the opportunity.

"That's what I've always been taught to do," he said. "Climb the ranks until you can't go higher."

But in spring 2012, Hurd and his family left Great Falls. Hurd said Flankey was unhappy with their life there, though he wouldn't articulate why. He figured, "happy wife, happy life." They moved into his mother-in-law's basement in Missoula, where they lived for the greater part of the next year.



"I would have been better off stabbing myself in the face," Hurd said.

That summer, Flankey got pregnant with their fourth child, only to miscarry after 14 weeks, he said. She had a Caesarean section when their youngest son was born, and her uterus didn't heal properly, taking away her ability to carry a child to term. Within a year, Flankey miscarried twice more at 14 weeks. Her doctors didn't remove the dead fetus once, and Hurd said Flankey delivered a stillborn, who would have been able to suck his thumb and make facial expressions at the time, at home.

The series of miscarriages took a heavy toll on Flankey, and she turned to drugs, starting with pills and escalating to methamphetamine, Hurd said. The family moved out of Hurd's mother-in-law's house and lived in the family's blue 2003 Dodge Caravan for the next several months, before moving into Room No. 29 at Brownies Plus Motel on West Broadway near Russell Street in December 2013.

With the stress of providing for his family while unemployed after a back injury, and the availability of drugs through Flankey, Hurd picked up a long-dormant meth habit. He said the combination of his meth addiction and a pregnant girlfriend prompted him to join the Army when he was 19 to get his life together the first time.

But while in Missoula, he started hanging out with his Russian buddies and would park his minivan outside of Al's and Vic's Bar with three car seats inside. He wouldn't say what he did to put food on the table for his family.

Now that he's in jail and clean, Hurd calls meth the dev-

il. At one point he was a strong advocate against meth use — he spoke at high school assemblies and rehab groups.

"There are no success stories when it comes to meth," Hurd said. "Nobody's ever like, 'My life is great; I'm so happy and it's all because of meth!'"

Self storage is a lucrative business. According to the Self Storage Association, as a "recession-resistant" industry, self storage has been the fastest growing facet of commercial real estate over the last 40 years. Last year, the industry generated more than \$24 billion in revenue across the U.S. and paid more than \$3.25 billion in local and state property taxes.

Missoula itself has at least 45 storage unit facilities throughout town, both local and corporate. Alex Lekas, business development manager of PTI Security Systems, a company that sells security systems for storage facilities, said the value of the contents of storage units varies big time.

"On occasion, people have stuff stashed away in a unit that's really valuable," Lekas said. "A lot of times it's not — just old furniture or something. But every once in a while, there will be really expensive things in a storage unit."

Lekas said upward trends in self storage thefts could be a result of reality TV shows like A&E's "Storage Wars" and TruTV's "Storage Hunters," which have made the potential value in units more widely known to the public. But awareness makes for action. In the last few decades, technological advances took self storage security from Dobermans to door alarms. Even still, Lekas said the best thing a storage facility can offer is an attentive staff.

"It's hard to beat physical eyes on something," Lekas said. "All the other tools just provide the info, but the tools can't act on anything. The people there have to be there to do something about it ... A lot of (the tools) are reactive, not proactive."

Lekas said tenants should educate themselves on the levels of security facilities offer. They can range from simple fences and combination locks to entry-and-exit key-code gates and mobile and wireless surveillance systems.

But that doesn't mean every unit is perfectly safe under lock and key. Det. Sgt. Travis Welsh, Missoula Police Department communications director, said safety is up to the owner.

"The level of security is dependent on the owner of the property," Welsh said. "A lot of those property owners are getting savvy to that."

Regardless, storage unit theft in Missoula is increasing at a faster and more intense rate than other Montana cities. While the number of break-ins in Missoula has doubled twice in the last three years, Butte hasn't seen more than five break-ins since 2009. The total storage-unit break-ins in Great Falls and Butte-Silver Bow County in the last four years is a little more than half of what Missoula saw in last year alone.

Welsh said the recent trend of break-ins can't be attributed to a single person or even a group of people. But whoever's doing it has tricks for making storage unit theft highly efficient. Welsh said MPD has responded to break-ins where the burglars enter one unit and kick or drill holes in the thin drywall to enter the rest of the units on the block.

It's about a 50-50 chance anybody gets their stuff back,



One of Daniel's found ski's with the pawn shop sticker still in place.

Welsh said.

"We do recover some property," he said. "We probably don't recover it all ... Each case has its own set of variables."

Welsh said stolen property can sometimes be traced to pawn shops by serial numbers, but recovering it depends on whether a thief pawns the goods, and where and when they're pawned.

"Sometimes a thief will just keep (stolen property) in his own home or possession," he said.

It's a lucrative business on both sides of the law. But Hurd couldn't escape the consequences.

Less than a week before Christmas day, Hurd said he was checking out a wrecked red Mitsubishi sitting outside the Gaming Garage, a storage unit that had been recently burglarized, on his way home to Brownies Plus Motel. The front end of the car was totaled, crumpled up to the windshield even, but Hurd said he wanted to see if it was worth fixing because his Russian buddies all had high-end cars like it.

Hurd took off the front driver tire to see what condition the brake pads were in. He said he was halfway under the wheel well when Officer Courtney Shields responded to a call that Hurd was stealing parts. He was arrested for possession of burglary tools, theft, criminal mischief and criminal trespass to a motor vehicle on Dec. 19, 2013.

"All I had was the hubcap with the lug nuts in the front seat of my van so I wouldn't lose them," he said. "I was there for like two hours. If I wanted to take anything off that car, it would have already been stripped by the time the cops got there."

Flankey bailed him out of jail within a few hours with money they didn't have to spend, Hurd said. They owed a \$200 payment on their storage unit at Clark Fork Storage that afternoon, and now that they'd spent it on Hurd's bail, they needed money fast.

Hurd said he borrowed money from a friend and rushed out to Clark Fork Storage on foot — the police had impounded his Caravan. On his way there, he got a call from the Brownies Plus manager, who said their \$215-rent was due that afternoon or Hurd and his family would be evicted. At Clark Fork Storage, Hurd paid

for the storage unit and sold his family's new red and chrome front-load washer and dryer set, which he valued at \$900, for \$200.

Hurd was able to pay the rent on time, but he knew his time was running out before his family would be homeless.

"I was going to be living in my van again with my three little kids and my wife," he said. "I needed to do something."

According to court documents, at 3 a.m. on Dec. 22, Hurd went to Clark Fork Storage, used his own password to open the gate and broke into several units and the main office. Surveillance video shows a heavy-set man dressed in black from head to toe entering the lot and stepping through the snow, smoking a cigarette.

He took several unopened Chalet-brand locks and \$198 out of the office, and he filled a backpack with other people's belongings, according to the affidavit. He left the storage facility and stole a two-toned purple 1993 Mercury Cougar from the parking lot of Daily's Premium Meats down the street using his military training — combat soldiers learn how to hotwire cars in case they get separated from their unit so they can drive back to base.

On the one-mile drive back to his family, Hurd said he saw an open gate to Russ' Paint and Auto Body, which doubles as a storage facility. He allegedly drove in and cut the locks on at least three units, replacing them with the stolen Chalet locks from Clark Fork Storage.

"It just didn't feel good to leave them open," he said.

From the storage units, Hurd took a Tippmann X7 paintball gun with a flatline barrel, an Orvis fly rod, a Leapfrog touchpad with math and geography games and box that contained a Purple Heart medal, among other things, according to police reports. He left cups of cigarette butts from the stolen Cougar in one of the burglarized units.

Hurd left Russ' Paint and Auto and dropped off a load of stolen goods with Flankey, who wrapped some of them as Christmas presents for their children. Court documents say Hurd returned to Russ', traded the Cougar for a white 1999 Mercury Sable that was being stored in one of the units and continued on his spree.

Sometime during the morning, Hurd went to Lil' Bear Storage and burglarized several units. The police identified

his footprints in the snow as the same boots from the other robberies.

Then Hurd said he went home to the motel and watched children's and Christmas movies with his family.

He was arrested Dec. 23, 2013, and charged with two counts of felony theft and one count of felony burglary. When police raided their room at Brownie's Plus, they found boxes of stolen items stacked from floor to ceiling, as well as drugs and drug paraphernalia. Tests came back positive for meth in hair samples from two of Hurd's "lucky charms" — his kids, ages 3 and 5. He was later charged with endangering the welfare of his children.

Hurd pleaded not guilty to all charges Jan. 23. His trial is set to begin later this month.

Hurd remains in jail, waiting for his trial to begin. He was released on parole in mid-February with conditions to care for his kids after Flankey left town, but when a urine test showed traces of alcohol after a night out with his Russian buddies, he was remanded to custody.

Now, Hurd's children are in the foster system.

"I lost everything," Hurd said. "A couple of bad decisions, and I'm here ... But it's all behind me now. That chapter of my life is over."

In jail, Hurd has been reading "For Whom The Bell Tolls" by Ernest Hemingway, contemporary American poetry and parenting books. He said he is determined to get clean and to get his kids back.

"They're my true north," he said. "Without them, I got nothing."

But his victims and victims of other storage unit thefts are still struggling to get back what was taken from them.

Daniel said keeping in touch with the police and staying proactive is a key factor in seeing stolen goods again.

"I feel like I lucked out — (Hurd and Flankey) getting caught and my perseverance are the only reason why I got my stuff back," Daniel said.

But Daniel isn't holding out for the rest of what was taken from his unit to be returned to him.

"I feel like (Hurd) gave it to people in trade for drugs," he said. "I don't think he pawned it ... At this point, I've given up all hope."

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In November 2013, Brad Daniel went to his Missoula storage unit to get his ski gear out for the winter and found that the outside lock was cut and many of his belongings were missing, including his ski gear.

Notes	1600cu in red back...	+
	1600cu in red back packing pack	
	Hunting backpackpack with equip.	
	Volkl kendo skis with bindings	
	Tecnica Phoenix 80 Air Shell ski boots	
	Burton snowboard boots one size 10.5 other size 12	
	Box of hiking boots and winter boots	
	Ride snowboard with ride bindings	
	Burton boots	
	Misc tools in small tool box	
	Box of airloom cut rocks.	
	Insulated sleeping bag	
	Black snowshoes	

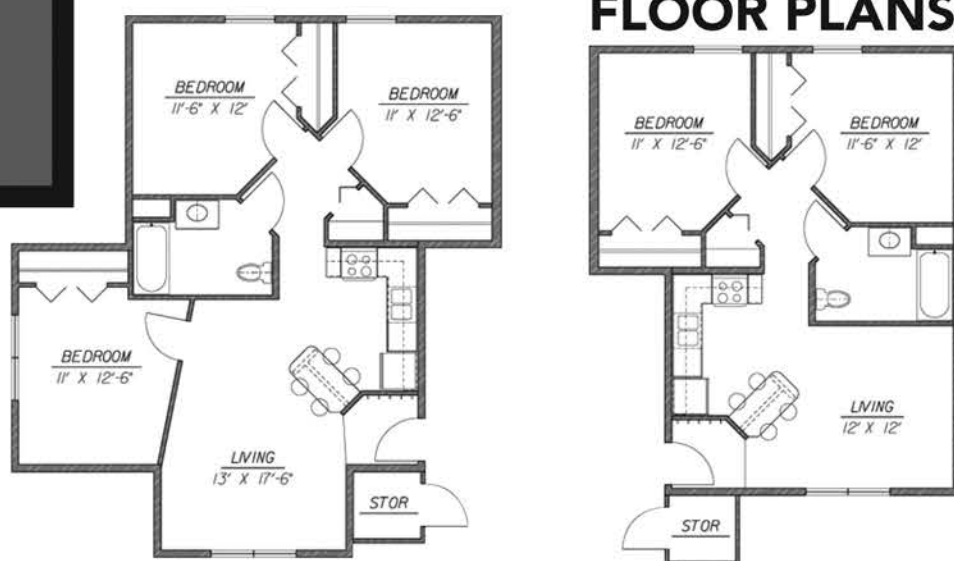
Daniel's inventory list of items missing from his storage unit.

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BACON

Pints and pork grace the fairgrounds

Bjorn Bergeson

Montana Kaimin

If there were ever an event that virtually sells itself, it should be Missoula's third annual Bacon and Brew Fest. What could possibly be more Montanan, or American, or hedonistic than bacon and beer together? (Unless you're a gluten-intolerant vegetarian, and sorry if you are.)

Mollie Simpkins, Public Relations director for Z100, the classic-rock radio station organizing the event, said the festival grew out of a bacon cookoff three years ago, held by two of the station's DJs. They had the bacon part down, Simpkins said, but it still seemed to be missing something.

"They were like, 'How can we make this bigger?'" Simpkins said. "So they decided to add beer to the event."

Thus the most Montanan of festivals was born. From these humble origins, Z100 has thrown the fest every year. Everyone knows Montana drinks more beer than almost anywhere else, but America as a whole is obsessed with the tasty backsides of pigs. It's estimated that on average, Americans eat over 18 pounds of the fatty succulent meat a year. Eating too much bacon has been linked with all sorts of bad stuff, like heart disease and diabetes, but some studies show it might make babies smarter.

"It's fatty and salty," Mary Kleschern, a doctor at Curry Health Center, said. "Does eating a lot of that promote health? Of course not."



Gracie Ryan/Montana Kaimin

The 2014 Bacon & Brew Fest is being held this Saturday, April 12 at the Missoula Fairgrounds from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Klescher said the event still sounds like fun even if it is unhealthy. She further stated that excessive consumption could be a bad thing and recommended people try to eat bacon and drink beer responsibly.

Despite not being the healthiest food, bacon's popularity has grown more and more over the years, and now the tender fatty meat has branched out into the world of merchandising. You can get bacon-scent-

ed deodorant, bacon flavored toothpaste, bacon breath mints and more. Many of bacon's merchandising exploits will be available at the festival.

This year, the Bacon and Brew Fest has a host of vendors that will sell at least one bacon themed item at each booth. Daily's bacon is the official bacon of the event. The Rhino and Summit Beverages will handle the beer. Cold Stone Creamery is offering up bacon-flavored ice cream, and Rockin' Rudy's

will be there with all sorts of bacon-y gimmicks like bacon mints and more. There will also be music performances by Sister Soul and the Medicine and the Bottom Feeders.

Simpkins said the early spring weather might be the only thing that keeps some people away from the festival.

"It might be a little overcast on Saturday, but we'll be under cover so that shouldn't keep anybody away," Simpkins said. "And there's bacon and beer."

The 2014 Bacon and Brew-fest is open to all ages, and it's as family-friendly as drinking booze and eating animals could be. Beer will be available to those able to prove they are 21 or older. It's \$5 for a full-day pass, and \$1 more for the obligatory commemorative beer mug and a beer. All of it goes down Saturday, April 12, at the 4-H pavilion at the Missoula County Fairgrounds at 11 a.m.

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CAMPUS

Authors explore race through creative writing

Taylor Wyllie
Montana Kaimin

There is a double standard in poetry, author and poet Dorothy Wang said to a crowd of more than 70 in the University Center Theater on Thursday night. Minority writers are treated as second- or third-class citizens in the creative-writing world, and are automatically pigeonholed into being ambassadors of their ethnicities she said.

Wang's book "Thinking Its Presence: Form, Race, and Subjectivity in Contemporary Asian American Poetry" inspired the conference, a three day inaugural event to explore the relationship race has with literature and creative writing.

"The need for frank discussion is there because the sting and the suffering of [racism] is there," co-sponsor of the event Joanna Klink said in a speech Thursday night.

The conference delves into a number of race-related issues, spanning from Native American writing and film, to the detrimental effects of self-censorship and guilt in writing. Co-sponsor Prageeta Sharma said, they all relate to the overarching theme of how society responds to the literature of racial minorities.

According to Sharma, works written by minorities are frequently analyzed for their content, and not appreciated as pieces of literature of their own merit. Additionally, she said, white writing is what gets rewarded, more often than not.

"I don't think this is a new statement, I'm not saying anything controversial by talking about this history of publishing," Sharma said. "You can look at different statistics and see who's winning the Pulitzer, who's winning the Macarthur, who's winning the Nobel."

Tisa Bryant, professor at CalArts and a speaker at the conference, said it's also about what's inside works of literature.

"We live in a multi-ethnic, multi racial world," Bryant said. "And yet, we — and I'm really meaning we — contend to create fictional worlds that are monocultural, monolingual. Worlds that are not at all reflective of our reality in significant ways."

Sharma and Klink decided to tackle these intricate subjects by inviting over 30 writers and professors from across the country to share their personal stories. They began planning in August.

"What we're hoping is that there is a constant conversation and a pleasurable experience of



Stacy Thacker/Montana Kaimin

Dorothy Wang, an associate professor at Williams College, speaks Thursday during a Creative Writing Conference titled "Thinking Its Presence: Race and Creative Writing." Wang is the author of "Thinking Its Presence," a book that looks at how race plays a role in American poetry.

listening," Sharma said. "We really just wanted to gather a lot of people together who are having this conversation, and inviting more people to have this conversation. What is the relationship between race and creative writing in the 21st century?"

John Keene, an associate professor at Rutgers University, read an excerpt of his work Thursday night, and said creative writing is a powerful force, especially when it comes to tackling multifaceted issues.

"We underestimate the power of creative writing," Keene said. "Fiction, poetry, playwrighting, narratives — these are extraordinarily powerful tools. They're not just forms of entertainment."

The conference doesn't exclude problems revolving around the Caucasian race. The panel "Facing the Elephant:

White Writers Discuss Writing About Race" on April 11, will talk about how for those who identify as white, race can be the elephant in the room as it's relevant yet often ignored.

"I do hope that white people can come away from this conference understanding themselves as racialized bodies like everybody else," Bryant said. "Without that growing awareness and acknowledgement there's a stasis. There's an imbalance in understanding what race is."

Along with race, the conference explores other facets of identity. These include gender, class, sexuality and religion.

"This is called Race and Creative Writing, but race comes fraited with all of those other things," Bryant said. "It's a side of the intersection of all of these other things and intensifies all of those other things."

As a way to continue this dialogue, Sharma said, the conference will be held at University of Montana again next year, before moving to other universities. In addition, a board will form to produce a book of minority-based works every two years, and reach out to minority groups that would like support.

Sharma said she doesn't want the discussion spurred by this conference and future actions, to be taken as overcritical or noninclusive. The point is to create a lasting dialogue on deep-seeded issues.

"[The idea is] to promote community, not to create judgments about mainstream literature and anthologies," Sharma said.

The conference is free to the UM and Missoula communities, and will continue through 12:15 p.m on April 11.

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TENNIS

Griz tennis preps for perfect Hornets

Montana hosts Sacramento State in crucial late-season home match

Andy Bixler
Montana Kaimin

The Montana women's tennis team is riding a six-game conference winning streak, but the biggest challenge still lies ahead.

The Griz (11-7, 6-0 Big Sky Conference) will take on the Sacramento State Hornets (9-12, 7-0 BSC) Friday at the Peak Racket Club. The Hornets have won the last 12 consecutive BSC championships and own a 112-game conference winning streak.

"Obviously, it's a big match for us," Montana head coach Steve Ascher said. "We're both undefeated (in BSC play) so far, but obviously they have been winning a lot longer than we have."

Montana is coming off back-to-back losses to Utah State and Utah, suffered over a spring break trip. The Grizzlies were blanked 7-0 by the nationally-ranked Utes on April 2, and lost 4-3 to Utah State on April 3.

Junior Precious Gbadamosi said the trip, in the midst of conference play, gave the team a chance to be torn down and then be built back up.

"We played them both pretty close, and I think that might have been like a boost for our confidence," she said. "It kind of showed us what we are capable of doing, even though we lost."

Ascher said the losses to Utah and Utah State showed promising signs for his team, especially the close match against the Aggies.

Sacramento State is a powerhouse in both men's and women's tennis. The Hornets are led by Daria Savchenko at No. 1 singles, and Alina Soltanici, who plays singles and doubles.

For Montana to have a shot Ascher said they need to play perfectly in both the singles and doubles matches, and most importantly not get flustered.

'It kind of showed us what we are capable of doing, even though we lost.'

Precious Gbadamosi
junior tennis player

"Mentally, we have to stay tough," he said. "We have experienced girls, who know what they need to do to win, it's just a matter of being able to stay strong and doing it."

No Grizzly is more experienced than Ashley Mackey, one of only two seniors on the squad. Mackey is having the best year of her career, Ascher said, and is displaying the type of leadership only a veteran can provide.

"Ashley's been a rock at that number five spot," Ascher said. "The whole team looks to her and she gives us all she has, and that's been good for us a number of times this year."



Kelsey Wardwell/Montana Kaimin

Junior Precious Gbadamosi reacts during practice on Feb. 24 at the Peak Racquet Club.

Montana's No. 1 singles player has also been leading the conference winning streak. Like the team, junior Haley Driver is 6-0 in league play in singles, and hasn't dropped a set against a BSC opponent all year.

"Haley's play has been enormous for us," Ascher said. "Be-

tween those two, and Precious, and Sasha — the play has been constantly moving forward and building."

Even though the Griz have played well, the Hornets will provide a unique challenge. Gbadamosi said she considers it the biggest match of the season,

and has had it circled on her calendar since day one.

"The whole season has been leading up to this," she said. "We know it'll take a lot to have a chance to beat them, but that's what this is all about. I think we are as ready as we'll ever be."

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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephams Group

2			9			3		
6	1				4		2	
	3				6	8		
			8	7	1			2
8			6					
		9	2				5	
			5				4	1
		7			8			9

Level: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

SOLUTION TO THURSDAY'S PUZZLE

9	1	7	5	8	2	6	4	3
8	6	2	3	4	1	9	5	7
4	5	3	9	7	6	8	2	1
2	7	1	6	3	8	5	9	4
5	8	4	1	9	7	3	6	2
6	3	9	2	5	4	1	7	8
3	2	6	7	1	5	4	8	9
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FOOTBALL

Ready to reload: Spring ball offers opportunities for younger players

Jesse Flickinger

Montana Kaimin

Graduation has left holes in the University of Montana's lineup, but linebackers and the offensive line are two big areas of concern.

The Griz return 14 starters from last year's playoff squad, but no starting linebackers and gaps on the right side of the offensive line are question marks for Montana.

On Saturday, Montana will play its annual spring game Saturday at 6 p.m. at Washington-Grizzly Stadium. Spring ball provides the team with a chance to regroup and rebuild

around veteran players.

The game will be the culmination of almost a month's worth of practices with new players.

"Spring ball is really big for team chemistry," said Devon Dietrich, a redshirt sophomore offensive lineman. "It really gives you a chance to build new trust and build new bonds with guys to help establish that team community that's needed for the rest of the season."

The offensive line lost a lot of experience on its right side with the graduation of tackle Danny Kistler Jr., guard William Poehls and center Kjelby Oiland.

Dietrich hopes to play an important role off the bench for the offensive line. He said the spring game is an important assessment for shaping out the line.

"It's as close as we can come to a big season game for guys likes me," Dietrich said. "It's really a test of, can we play under the pressure of a little bit of a crowd and with the non-scripted plays that are coming in from the sideline?"

Kistler and Poehls were three-year starters for Montana and all three received All-Big Sky Conference honors after their senior year. Their departures will be

especially felt given Montana's affinity for the ground game.

Senior tackle Trevor Poole is a returning starter and will move from left guard to right tackle. John Schmaing, who appeared in several games for the Griz during the 2013 season, will also be a starter.

Senior Logan Hines is projected to fill the center position. His brother, senior Jordan Hines, will get the starting nod at left guard, while sophomore Ben Weyer is projected to start at right guard.

"All the seniors have really stepped up in terms of leadership and reestablishing the path we want to go down as an offensive line," Dietrich said. "They're doing a great job so far and we're all just following in their footsteps."

The linebacker squad will also see a complete makeover at the position as it tries to replace Jordan Tripp, Brock Coyle and John Kanongata'a, three All-BSC and NFL-caliber players.

Junior linebacker Jeremiah Kose is one of the few returning linebackers with game experience. He said no one really has a set spot quite yet.

"It's still pretty open," Kose said. "We'll just kind of compete with each other and try to make each other better."

Kose will be joined by fellow junior linebackers Herbert Gamboa, Connor Lebsock, and Kendrick Van Ackeren.



Tommy Martino/ Montana Kaimin

Offensive coordinator Kefense Hynson hits redshirt freshman quarterback Makena Simis while he dives into the end zone during a practice drill at Washington-Grizzly Stadium on Thursday night. Montana will play its spring game Saturday at 6 p.m.

Both Lebsock and Kose have been nursing injuries during practices, allowing more reps for freshmen linebackers Tucker Schye, Connor Strahm and Zach Vis.

Kose said the new corps will miss the seniors but feels confident they can get the job done.

"It's going to hurt a little bit definitely," Kose said, "but I feel like with us coming in and trying to get each other better, that we can step up and handle our own."

There will also be some internal shuffling from last year's roster. Eight players are using spring ball to work on changing positions.

Former starting quarterback redshirt sophomore Trent McK-

inney will move over to defense and try his hand at safety. Linebacker Jonathan Richards will switch sides and move to fullback.

Senior Jamaal Anderson is switching from cornerback to safety, and senior Mitch Saylor will transition from wide receiver to tight end.

Montana will hold one more week of spring practices after the game. The Griz will finish the month with position specific meetings before finishing out the semester.

The spring game will be many player's last opportunity at securing their role on the depth chart before next fall. Tickets for the scrimmage are \$5.

"It's really just about going out there and playing football," Dietrich said. "Just working on the principles, working on the technique and just having fun."

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Lost and found ads may be placed in the Kiosk free of charge. They can be 3 lines long and run for 3 days.

LOST AND FOUND

Lost: 2-tone avocado jacket between Lommasson Center and parking lot behind Jesse Hall on 4/8. Reward. Call Becky x2226 or 406-240-1079.

ENTERTAINMENT

Weekend cabins 30 minutes from Missoula \$45-65/night at Rock Creek Cabins 251-6611.

FOR SALE

SHISHA SHISHA SHISHA. New stock and hookahs too! At The Joint Effort

1918 Brooks at the Holiday Village Shopping Center.

HELP WANTED

Summer Jobs Silver Gate/YNP/Beartooths. All positions. Experience preferred, Not Required. Log Cabin Café, B&B. www.theloggincabinecafe.com/opportunity.

Boy Scout Camp Staff Positions: Melita Island on Flathead Lake. Camp runs June-August 2014. Contact Julie at flatrockround@gmail.com.

Headed into government or politics? Congress is a mess! Want to help clean it up? Visit www.samrankin.com and volunteer to help. Or call Sam @ 406-855-3013 for more details. Compensation available.

SERVICES

Reliable PC/laptop repair. Voted best of Missoula 2013. Student discounts! 136 E Broadway Computer Central 542-6540. M&M Driving School private driving lessons 317-3272.

Cheap Charley's Mini Storage, Griz Discount: Option 1) Full month free with 3 months up front. Option 2) 5% Griz Discount off regular price with Free sign up fee! Student discount for truck rental. (406) 721-7277.

STORAGE

Call Today! 406-541-4645 ALL STAR SELF STORAGE SECURE Facility & NO Deposit! MISCELLANEOUS CSKT members and descendants are invited to participate in a

University of Montana research study. Participants will be part of a focus group discussing how genetics can improve the use of medications in American Indian communities. Food and compensation will be provided. Contact Chelsea Morales at 406-647-0577 or chelsea.morales@umontana.edu.

SONG OF THE DAY

I Wanna Get Better - Bleachers

montana**kaimin**
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